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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Date: 05/21/2003 Signature: Stefan Koschmieder

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To: Examiner: Deo	Telephone Number: 305-0515
Group Art Unit: 1765	
Facsimile No.: 703-872-9436	
From: Stefan U. Koschmieder	Registration No.: 50,238
Telephone Number: 412-6463	
Date: May 20, 2003	
RE: U.S. Application Serial Number: 09/531,163	
Filed: March 17, 2000	
Attorney Docket Number: 0039-7632-0X	

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 2

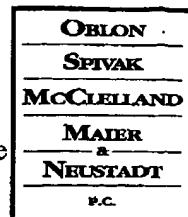
COMMENTS

Discussion topics for May 21, 2003, at 9:45 AM

see attached sheet

In the event that any fees are due, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge the required fees to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

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I. Contradictory Teaching of Prior Art References.

- Ronay teaches that the combination of the polyelectrolyte and abrasive particle inhibits polishing rate.
- Ronay teaching is contradictory to the performance observed for the claimed invention.
- Ronay shows inhibitory result, claimed invention shows increased polishing speed.

II Prior art cited does not disclose functionalized polymer particles as presently claimed.

- Polymer particles of prior art are not functionalized.
- Only the polyelectrolyte is disclosed to contain carboxyl groups.

III Declaration provides a showing that the claimed invention offers different performance from the prior art compositions (increased vs. suppressed polishing rate).

- Combination of functionalized polymer particles and abrasive particles increases polishing rate and reduces surface scratches.
- Declaration evidences superiority of claimed composition by a side-by-side comparison of closest prior art.

DRAFT